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## THE HAYTI HERALD

PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY, BY WILLIAM YORK, EDITOR AND PUB.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION: \$1.00 A YEAR, CASH IN ADVANCE

ENTERED AT THE POSTOFFICE, HAYTI, MISSOURI, AS SECOND CLASS MATTER

Office in City Hall, Southwest Room, Hayti, Pemiscot County, Missouri

The Only Recognized Straight Democratic Newspaper in the County.

### LET THE TRUTH PREVAIL.

As much as we regret it, we find it necessary this week to correct the statements published by the Socialist relative to the Knight-Ransburgh killing on Monday evening, Oct. 6.

To begin with, we want to say that both men were friends of our's and either of them would have carried us on his back a thousand miles, if necessary. Therefore it should be reasonable to every one that we have no feeling against either man, but keenly feel the loss of two friends:

We can see no reason why the Socialist's statements should be so far from the truth, unless it intended to vent its spleen on a man after he is dead, but even in that case it should remember the poor, defenseless widow and helpless little children over whose lives its published falsehoods cast a shadow and into whose hearts it sinks the pangs of sorrow deeper.

Let us not forget that both men were married and had devoted wives, and that both had near and dear relatives and close friends, and they keenly feel the enormity of this deplorable tragedy. For this reason only the cold facts should be stated. There are facts leading up to the killing which we shall not mention, unless called out. As we said last week, the story is a long one. There is no doubt in our mind that there are others more to blame than either Knight or Ransburgh. In fact, there has been a desire for a killing for months, and aside from the assault made upon our printer at one time and upon us at another time, our life has been threatened dozens of times, all of which we have ignored. But all this talk of fighting and killing had to bear fruit somewhere. For instance, our enemies put up Ransburgh to whip Squirrely Baker. Again, because one of our most bitter enemies made peace with us and Knight told that fact, a shooting scrape was narrowly averted between Knight and two others. Then, again, when the fine of our assailant was remitted, feeling was intensified. Further back, a man and the butt end of a billiard cue in a surly mood towards us made things look dangerous.

Of course none of these incidents were directly or indirectly connected with the killing, and we mention them only as facts gradually working upon the men of passionate minds and developing them into a violent state.

The cause of the killing and the facts leading directly to it were quite different and apart from the above, and remain practically as stated by us last week, except that Knight was first to draw his gun and neither spoke after the first shot was fired.

But to the facts. The Socialist says:

"Monday afternoon, in Scott & Morgan's saloon, this city, a duel took place between Henry Ransburgh and Bill Knight, the latter night marshal of this city. Ransburgh was drinking, and had been in three difficulties within an hour, whipping two men and drawing his pistol on the third. The officer LOCATED him in Scott & Morgan's saloon, and advised him to go home, to which Ransburgh took exception, and when Knight turned his BACK to him, he (Ransburgh) fired at Knight, the ball entering two inches to the left of the left kidney, and lodging under the skin in the breast, showing Knight to have been in a stooping position when the ball entered his back. Knight fell with his face to the floor, and Ransburgh walked to his feet, and was in the act of shooting him again, when some one in the saloon grabbed his pistol and prevented his doing so. Knight was trying to turn over, and at the same time got his pistol from his pocket, and when he succeeded in withdrawing it, he said: 'You have killed me, Henry, but I will get you.' Ransburgh looked at Knight, and seeing he had his pistol, started to RUN. Knight said to him: 'Stop, for I do not want to shoot you in the BACK.' This caused Ransburgh to stop and face him, and as he did, Knight began emptying his pistol into his body, shooting five times."

If there is one scintilla of truth in the above statement, we are powerless to discover it, and we have given the case the most crucial investigation.

Aside from the facts as stated in the Herald last week, in which we described the mood of Ransburgh and that he had had previous trouble that day, it is necessary now to state that Knight was in equally as ugly a mood, and had made the statement twice that day that there were two men he was going to "get" that day, once in the morning, to Ransburgh, and in the afternoon, in a business house, at the same time, in the business house, exhibiting his pistol. As much as we regret to say it, Mr. Knight "doped" heavily and at times used whiskey to an excess, and was in a bad condition several times during the past month, having to be taken home one night, losing his pistol and keys in the rounds. Ransburgh, being an alderman, assisted Knight out of this trouble. Later, on Friday night before the killing, Knight had trouble at the Waller Bros. show, which was renewed after the show, at which time Ransburgh was called by a showman, and trouble was averted. For this latter trouble Knight was to be brought before the meeting of the board of aldermen the Monday night of the killing, and probably discharged from the office of night marshal, which office he had been holding by appointment largely through the instrumentality of Ransburgh. In this latter trouble Ransburgh had refused to assist Knight with the board, as he had done on previous occasions, and this seemed to put Knight in an ill temper, leading up to the remarks quoted above, and Knight having addressed the same remark to Ransburgh, he too, was left in an ugly mood. Knight spent a large part of the day up town, but was not on duty, and only a few minutes before the killing both had been together, had lunch at a restaurant, Knight paying for the lunches, at which time they again talked over the board meeting to

be held that night, without Ransburgh giving Knight any encouragement. In fact, Ransburgh had said to his friends that he thought it was best for the board to give Knight a good lecture and possibly he would do better. It will be remembered that not many months ago, with fear and trembling, Knight was discharged from duty for a like offense.

Knight did not go into the saloon to "LOCATE" Ransburgh. He was invited into the saloon by his friends, W. F. Moore and Andrew Milan, prominent citizens of Campbell, to take a treat. Entering the saloon he found Ransburgh in a little altercation and approached him. Words were exchanged and the temper of both men aroused. The bartender asked Knight twice to go away and let Ransburgh alone. They engaged in a slight scuffle, when Knight drew his pistol, and in the break-away Ransburgh shoved Knight, turning him, and fired. Knight fell to the floor, but did not speak, still holding the unlighted cigar he had just received in his mouth. Ransburgh stepped over Knight's feet and paused to look at him, evidently to see if he was dead, when, as quick as thought, Knight fired a shot into Ransburgh's bowels, ranging back to the spine, paralyzing him and rendering him helpless. Ransburgh never attempted to fire the second time. Knight, from his position on the floor, fired the five shots emptying his pistol in quick succession.

The above are the positive and established facts in the case, and published for the truthful information of the people. Of course there are still other facts, but we hope not to be called upon to publish them.

### Order of Publication.

STATE OF MISSOURI, ss.  
County of Pemiscot, ss.  
In the Circuit Court, November term, 1913.

Nora C. Williams, Plaintiff,

vs.  
Henry C. Williams, Defendant.

The State of Missouri to the above named Defendant,—Greeting:

You are hereby notified that an action has been commenced against you in the Circuit Court, of the County of Pemiscot in the State of Missouri, for the purpose of dissolving the bonds of matrimony heretofore contracted between plaintiff and defendant, on the grounds of general indignities.

Which said action is returnable on the first day of the next term of said Court, to be held at the Court House in the City of Caruthersville in the County of Pemiscot and State of Missouri, when and where you may appear and defend such action; otherwise Plaintiff's petition will be taken as confessed and judgment rendered accordingly.

And it is further ordered, that a copy hereof be published, according to law, in the Hayti Herald, a newspaper published in said County of Pemiscot, for four weeks successively, published at least once a week, the last insertion to be at least fifteen days before the first day of said next November term of this Court.

E. S. HUFFMAN, Circuit Clerk.

A true copy from the record.  
WITNESS my hand, and seal of the Circuit Court of Pemiscot county, this 17th day of September, 1913.

(Seal.) E. S. HUFFMAN,  
46-41 Circuit Clerk.

### Order of Publication.

STATE OF MISSOURI, ss.  
County of Pemiscot, ss.  
In the Circuit Court, November Term, 1913.

L. E. Tate, Plaintiff,

vs.  
Gertie Tate, Defendant.

The State of Missouri to the above named Defendant,—Greeting:

You are hereby notified that an action has been commenced against you in the Circuit Court, of the County of Pemiscot in the State of Missouri, for the purpose of dissolving the bonds of matrimony heretofore contracted between plaintiff and defendant, on the grounds of general indignities.

Which said action is returnable on the first day of the next term of said Court, to be held at the Court House in the City of Caruthersville in the County of Pemiscot and State of Missouri, when and where you may appear and defend such action; otherwise Plaintiff's petition will be taken as confessed and judgment rendered accordingly.

And it is further ordered, that a copy hereof be published, according to law, in the Hayti Herald, a newspaper published in said County of Pemiscot, for four weeks successively, published at least once a week, the last insertion to be at least fifteen days before the first day of said next November term of this Court.

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